



Introduced Version

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 48

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of all schools and libraries being equipped with high-capacity, high-speed broadband connectivity.

KRUSE

February 20, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.



SENATE RESOLUTION No. 48

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of
2 all schools and libraries being equipped with high-capacity,
3 high-speed broadband connectivity.

4 *Whereas, February 5, 2014, marked national Digital*
5 *Learning Day, bringing to the forefront the broadband*
6 *imperative currently facing schools and libraries in all*
7 *communities across the state of Indiana;*

8 *Whereas, Broadband has become the enabling technology*
9 *of the modern learning environment, is now as vital to schools*
10 *as brick and mortar infrastructure and utilities, and has the*
11 *power to transform classrooms and transmit information,*
12 *helping to support students in acquiring 21st Century skills and*
13 *making learning environments more engaging and relevant;*

14 *Whereas, Broadband and other technology tools have the*
15 *ability to increase education capacity as well through online*
16 *academies, project-based and personalized learning, AP and*
17 *dual credit, and STEM initiatives;*

18 *Whereas, Increased broadband capacity will also improve*
19 *the efficiency of data management and information sharing by*



1 *schools with parents and community stakeholders, as teacher*
2 *evaluations can be moved online to provide immediate feedback*
3 *to help improve classroom instruction, and parents can be more*
4 *readily informed about their students' academic progress;*

5 *Whereas, Libraries benefit from high-capacity, high-speed*
6 *broadband connectivity as well, as they have notably become*
7 *community resource centers of digital information where*
8 *people can learn about healthcare, e-government services,*
9 *search for available jobs, and more;*

10 *Whereas, While reliable internet connectivity has become*
11 *a necessity of schools and libraries, the current capacity of the*
12 *broadband connections is inadequate;*

13 *Whereas, Despite this need, school and library budgets are*
14 *constrained by inflation and other expenses, the state school*
15 *and library connectivity grant only addresses ten percent of the*
16 *costs for the local portion of the requests for these services, and*
17 *thus affordability and funding remain a barrier to securing*
18 *adequate bandwidth capacity; and*

19 *Whereas, If Indiana's bold educational initiatives,*
20 *including creating thriving students and a high-tech workforce,*
21 *are to become successful and sustainable, the state must*
22 *prioritize in terms of investing in a robust, fiber-based network*
23 *of internet broadband to connect the demand for this*
24 *technology with the necessary funding: Therefore,*

25 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
26 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

27 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the broadband
28 imperative facing schools and libraries in all communities across the
29 state of Indiana.

30 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
31 transmit copies of this Resolution to the Executive Directors of the



1 Indiana State Library, the Indiana Library Federation, the Indiana
2 Association of School Business Officials, the Indiana Association of
3 Public School Superintendents, the Indiana School Boards
4 Association, the Indiana Urban Schools Association, the Indiana
5 Rural and Small Schools Association, the Indiana Association of
6 School Principals, the Consortium on School Networking, the
7 Indiana Chief Technology Officers Council, the Indiana Federation
8 of Teachers, and the Indiana State Teachers Association.

